

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 INT-05 TRSE-00 FRB-01 OPIC-03

AID-05 XMB-02 IGA-01 GSA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

RSC-01 /040 W

----- 052194

R 161215Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3185

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USDOC WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LOURENCO MARQUES 0048

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, ETRD, SF, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE RAILROAD AND PORT BOTTLENECKS REPORTEDLY
THREATEN U.S. CHROME ORE SUPPLY

REF: JOHANNESBURG 042

1. FROM DISCUSSIONS WITH LOCAL FREIGHT FORWARDERS AND SODERLUND
AND BROWN, WE HAVE ESTABLISHED THAT PRINCIPAL FACTORS IN
BOTTLENECK AFFECTING CHROME ORE SHIPMENTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA
ARE:

A. SHORTAGE OF TRAINED MOZAMBIKAN PERSONNEL TO DRIVE LOCO-
MOTIVES, SHUNT RAILROAD CARS, AND OPERATE MINERAL ORE LOADING
FACILITY IN MATOLA (LATTER OPERATING AT 40 PERCENT NORMAL
RATE). PROBLEM IS ATTRIBUTABLE TO EXODUS OF WHITE PORTUGUESE
PERSONNEL.

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B. LOW PRIORITY GIVEN BY BOTH CFM AND SAR TO RAILROAD CARS

LOADED WITH CHROME.

C. PRIORITY IN MATOLA WHARF GIVEN TO ORE FROM SWAZILAND AND FROM ANGLO-AMERICAN, BOTH OF WHOM CONTRIBUTED FINANCIALLY FOR CONSTRUCTION OF FACILITIES THERE.

2. SINCE CFM IS ALREADY DOING EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO TRAIN PERSONNEL IN HOPE OF IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY OF ORE OPERATIONS, BOTH SODERLAND AND BROWN AGREED ONLY SOLUTION POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME WOULD BE FOR CFM AND SAR TO GIVE HIGHER TEMPORARY PRIORITY FOR CHROME SHIPMENTS. THEY INTEND TO EXPLORE THIS POSSIBILITY WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONSUL GENERAL AND CFM AND SAR REPRESENTATIVES WHILE IN LOURENCO MARQUES.

3. AVERAGE DELAY FOR SHIPS PICKING UP ORE IN LOURENCO MARQUES IS CURRENTLY 30 DAYS.
WALKER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PORT CONGESTION, IRON, EXPORTS, RAILROADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750017-0555
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: JOHANNESBURG
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